

THE DAILY PRESS.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 14.

From the Philadelphia Press.

A PULPIT SKETCH.

Rev. Thomas H. Stockton, D. D.—His Last Sermon in Philadelphia.

One of the most imposing pulpit scenes witnessed in Philadelphia for a long time was presented at the Second Presbyterian Church, closing session in Philadelphia, on Saturday evening, the 24th ult., prior to resuming his duties as chaplain of the National House of Representatives at Washington. Dr. Stockton, strangely enough, exhibits increasing mental vigor as his physical powers decline. He is a man of great energy, with a speaker, a devoted and eloquent preacher, a wonderful orator, a poet, and an independent theologian, and seems daily to sustain these characteristics in a higher degree. His election—was my say his repeated re-elections—to the Congressional chaplaincy are not more complimentary to him than they are creditable to the appreciative sagacity of that august body. He is, in fact, the recognized living spokesman for that institution. While independent in his ecclesiastical views, he defends no one by even the accident of denominational bias; singularly grave and devout in person, he impresses all who see him with the sanctity of his office; possessing the fertility of true genius, every subject he touches is invested with a poetical classic in the rhetoric of eloquence; a man familiar in eloquence, he holds and pleases the most cultivated ear; self-made, he represents the genius of our institutions; polished and affable in his social intercourse, he wins and retains the esteem of citizens and statesmen irrespective of section or creed.

The church was filled in every part. When the devotional services—begun by Rev. Mr. Stockton—had concluded, the vestry-bell, though not obliged to minister, as such, to his congregation, he quoted the passage in which our Saviour repeats the inquiry to Peter thrice, "Loverest thou me?" with the answer, "Feed my lambs." "Three times were sufficient for ever; how many times need ye be told, feed my lambs?" was the pathetic appeal with which he closed.

be as much superior to the man in the flesh, as the man is better than the child. Taking both statements as afforded in the lives of Newton, Milton and Chalmers, what a marvelous change was there between the child and the man! What a development of philosophy in the first, poetry in the second, and eloquence in the third! And yet, Newton in the flesh was not to be compared with Newton in the spirit; nor so of the rest.

Another thought of profound value is that "the spirit of man made perfect" conversed with each other, as they surely did, how much higher must be their thoughts, and understanding, and knowledge! The preacher's contemplative picture was a heretical view of man redeemed was such as only a man could conceive and present. There, what we have called genius might be dullness, and what we called learning might be ignorance.

And what next? This if we would pass on from manhood to sainthood—from mortal imperfection to immortal perfection—what must we do? Convert houses and lands, and turn them into temples? And what will be the result? We may say his repeated re-elections—to the Congressional chaplaincy are not more complimentary to him than they are creditable to the appreciative sagacity of that august body. He is, in fact, the recognized living spokesman for that institution. While independent in his ecclesiastical views, he defends no one by even the accident of denominational bias; singularly grave and devout in person, he impresses all who see him with the sanctity of his office; possessing the fertility of true genius, every subject he touches is invested with a poetical classic in the rhetoric of eloquence; a man familiar in eloquence, he holds and pleases the most cultivated ear; self-made, he represents the genius of our institutions; polished and affable in his social intercourse, he wins and retains the esteem of citizens and statesmen irrespective of section or creed.

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Advertised Letters.

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See, 5. And it is further enacted, That Lists of post offices, towns, cities, villages, and other places, in any city, town, or village, where a newspaper shall be printed, shall hereafter be published once only in each year, and that the publisher of the same, after shall have the largest circulation within the range of delivery of said office, to be entitled to receive a premium for each issue.—New Postage Law passed March 2, 1861.

Saturday, December 14—No. 50.

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Adams Maria
Adams Mrs

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